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SEC. 2. That in rural districts where sewerage systems do not exist, all surface closets used in connection with such schools shall be of fly-proof construction and in conformity with plans recommended or approved by the State board of health, with separate compartments for each sex.

SEC. 3. That any public school board or any person, firm, or corporation conducting any private school, who shall have charge of the erection, repair, or maintenance of any school building, who shall fail to provide said buildings with the facilities required by section 1 of this act, or who shall fail to provide surface closets as required by section 2 of this act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not exceeding \$50.

**Flies—Screening Required in Public Eating Places and Dining Cars. Foodstuffs—Protection of, by Screening in Markets and Stores. (Chap. 6953, Act May 13, 1915.)**

SECTION 1. On and after the passage of this act it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to operate any hotel, boarding house, restaurant, or lunch counter within this State without keeping all doors, windows, and other similar openings in or to dining rooms, kitchens, or any other place where food is prepared or stored, and passageways between the same, and hallways leading thereto, screened with wire netting, with mesh sufficiently close to prevent the admission of flies.

SEC. 2. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to sell or offer for sale food for consumption in the raw state, or which may be consumed without further cooking at any meat shop, butcher shop, market, grocery store, fruit stand, or any other places where food is exposed for sale without having such food securely screened by wire netting with mesh sufficiently close to prevent the admission of flies.

SEC. 3. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to operate any dining or buffet car within this State without having all doors, windows, and other similar openings to the same securely screened with wire netting with mesh sufficiently close to prevent the admission of flies.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the owner, tenant, operator, or person in charge of any of the foregoing described hotels, boarding houses, restaurants, lunch counters, meat shops, butcher shops, grocery stores, fruit stands, dining rooms, kitchens, dining or buffet cars, lunch counters, and other places to keep all flies out of the said places so far as may be possible.

SEC. 5. Any person, firm, or corporation found guilty of violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction fined not exceeding \$50 or punished by imprisonment not exceeding three months. Each day's business conducted in violation of the provisions of this act shall constitute a separate offense.

**Privies—Incorporated Towns—Required to be Fly Proof—Plans to be Recommended or Approved by State Board of Health. (Chap. 6895, Act May 18, 1915.)**

SECTION 1. That any person, firm, or corporation keeping or maintaining surface closets and privies used for the deposit of human excreta within incorporated limits, which are not fly proof in construction and are not in conformity with plans recommended or approved by the State board of health, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$10.

**Births and Deaths—Registration of. (Chap. 6892, Act May 27, 1915.)**

SECTION 1. That the State board of health shall have charge of the registration of births and deaths; shall furnish forms and blanks for obtaining and preserving such records and shall procure the faithful registration of the same in each primary registration district as constituted in section 3 of this act, and in the central bureau of vital

statistics at the office of the State board of health. The said board shall be charged with the uniform and thorough enforcement of the law throughout the State, and shall from time to time recommend any additional legislation that may be necessary for this purpose.

SEC. 2. That the central bureau of vital statistics, which is hereby authorized to be established by said board, shall be under the immediate direction of the State health officer who shall be by virtue of his office State registrar of vital statistics. The State board of health shall provide for such clerical and other assistants as may be necessary for the purposes of this act, and shall fix the compensation of persons thus employed, and shall provide for the bureau of vital statistics, suitable offices which shall be properly equipped with fireproof vault and filing cases for the permanent and safe preservation of all official records made and returned under this act.

SEC. 3. That for the purposes of this act the State shall be divided into registration districts as follows: Each city and each incorporated town shall constitute a primary registration district; and for that portion of each county outside of the cities and incorporated towns therein the State registrar shall define and designate the boundaries of a sufficient number of rural registration districts, which districts he may change, divide, or combine from time to time as may be necessary to insure the convenience and completeness of registration.

SEC. 4. That within 90 days after the taking effect of this act, or as soon thereafter as possible, the State registrar shall appoint a local registrar of vital statistics for each registration district in the State. The term of office of each local registrar so appointed shall be four years, and until his successor has been appointed and has qualified, unless such office shall sooner become vacant by death, disqualification, operation of law, or other causes: *Provided*, That in incorporated towns or cities where health officers or other officials are, in the judgment of the State registrar, conducting effective registration of births and deaths under local ordinances, such officials may be appointed as registrars in and for such incorporated towns or cities, and shall be subject to the instructions of the State registrar, and to all of the provisions of this act. Any vacancy occurring in the office of local registrar of vital statistics shall be filled for the unexpired term by the State registrar. At least 10 days before the expiration of the term of office of any such local registrar, his successor shall be appointed by the State registrar.

Any local registrar who, in the judgment of the State registrar, fails or neglects to discharge efficiently the duties of his office as set forth in this act, or to make prompt and complete returns of births and deaths as required thereby, shall be forthwith removed by the State registrar, and such other penalties may be imposed as are provided under section 22 of this act.

Each local registrar shall, immediately upon his acceptance of appointment as such, appoint a deputy, whose duty it shall be to act in his stead in case of his absence or disability; and such deputy shall in writing accept such appointment, and be subject to all instructions governing local registrars. And when it appears necessary for the convenience of the people in any district, the State registrar is hereby authorized, to appoint one or more suitable persons to act as subregistrars, who shall be authorized to receive certificates, to issue burial, removal, or other permits in and for such portions of the district as may be designated; and each subregistrar shall note, on each certificate, over his signature, the date of filing, and shall forward all certificates to the local registrar of the district within 10 days, and in all cases before the third day of the following month: *Provided*, That such subregistrar shall be subject to the supervision and control of the State registrar, and may be by him removed for neglect or failure to perform his duty in accordance with the provisions of this act or the instructions of the State registrar, and shall be subject to the same penalties for neglect of duty as the local registrar.

SEC. 5. That the body of any person whose death occurs in this State, or which shall be found dead therein, shall not be interred, deposited in a vault or tomb, cremated, or otherwise disposed of or removed from or into any registration district or be temporarily held pending further disposition more than 72 hours after death unless a permit for burial, removal, or other disposition thereof shall have been properly issued by the local registrar of the registration district in which the death occurred or the body was found. And no such burial or removal permit shall be issued by any registrar until, wherever practicable, a complete and satisfactory certificate of death has been filed with him as hereinafter provided: *Provided*, That when a dead body is transported from outside the State into a registration district in Florida for burial the transit or removal permit, issued in accordance with the law and health regulations of the place where the death occurred, shall be accepted by the local registrar of the district into which the body has been transported for burial or other disposition as a basis upon which he may issue a local burial permit; he shall note upon the face of the burial permit the fact that it was a body shipped in for interment, and give the actual place of death; and no local registrar shall receive any fee for the issuance of burial or removal permits under this act other than the compensation provided in section 20.

SEC. 6. That a stillborn child shall be registered as a birth and also as a death, and separate certificates of both the birth and death shall be filed with the local registrar, in the usual form and manner, the certificate of birth to contain in place of the name of the child the word "stillbirth": *Provided*, That a certificate of birth and a certificate of death shall not be required for a child that has not advanced to the fifth month of uterogestation. The medical certificate of the cause of death be signed by the attending physician, if any, and shall state the cause of death as "stillborn," with the cause of the stillbirth, if known, whether a premature birth, and, if born prematurely, the period of uterogestation, in months, if known; and a burial or removal permit of the prescribed form shall be required. Midwives shall not sign certificates of death for stillborn children; but such cases, and stillbirths occurring without attendance of a physician, shall be treated as deaths without medical attendance, as provided for in section 8 of this act.

SEC. 7. That the certificate of death shall be on the standard form approved by the United States Bureau of the Census, all of the items of which are hereby declared necessary for the legal, social, and sanitary purposes subserved by registration records. The personal and statistical particulars shall be authenticated by the signature of the informant, who may be any competent person acquainted with the facts.

The statement of facts relating to the disposition of the body shall be signed by the undertaker or person acting as such.

The medical certificate shall be made and signed by the physician, if any, last in attendance on the deceased, who shall specify the time in attendance, the time he last saw the deceased alive, and the hour of the day at which death occurred. And he shall further state the cause of death, so as to show the course of disease or sequence of causes resulting in the death, giving first the name of the disease causing death (primary cause), and the contributory (secondary) cause, if any, and the duration of each. Indefinite and unsatisfactory terms, denoting only symptoms of disease or conditions resulting from disease, will not be held sufficient for the issuance of a burial or removal permit; and any certificate containing only such terms, as defined by the State registrar, shall be returned to the physician or person making the medical certificate for correction and more definite statement. Causes of death which may be the result of either disease or violence shall be carefully defined; and if from violence, the means of injury shall be stated, and whether (probably) accidental, suicidal, or homicidal. And for deaths in hospitals, institutions, or of nonresidents, transients, or recent residents, the physician shall supply the information required under this head, if he is able to do so, and may state where in his opinion, the disease was contracted.

SEC. 8. That in case of any death occurring without medical attendance it shall be the duty of the undertaker or other person to whose knowledge the death may come to notify the local registrar of such death, and when so notified the registrar shall, prior to the issuance of the permit, inform the local health officer and refer the case to him for immediate investigation and certification: *Provided*, That when the local health officer is not a physician, or when there is no such official, and in such cases only, the registrar is authorized to make the certificate and return from the statement of relatives or other persons having adequate knowledge of the facts: *Provided further*, That if the undertaker, or person acting as such, or the registrar has reason to believe that the death may have been due to unlawful act or neglect, the registrar shall then refer the case to the coroner or other proper officer for his investigation and certification. And the coroner or other proper officer whose duty it is to hold an inquest on the body of any deceased person and to make the certificate of death required for a burial permit shall state in his certificate the name of the disease causing death, or, if from external causes, (1) the means of death; and (2) whether (probably) accidental, suicidal, or homicidal; and shall, in any case, furnish such information as may be required by the State registrar in order properly to classify the death.

SEC. 9. That the undertaker or person acting as undertaker shall file the certificate of death with the local registrar of the district in which the death occurred and obtain a burial, removal, or other permit prior to any disposition of the body. He shall obtain the required personal and statistical particulars from the person best qualified to supply them, over the signature and address of his informant. He shall then present the certificate of the attending physician, if any, or to the health officer or coroner, as directed by the local registrar, for the medical certificate of the cause of death and other particulars necessary to complete the record, as specified in sections 7 and 8. And he shall then state the facts required relative to the date and place of burial, other dispositions, or removal, over his signature and with his address, and present the complete certificate to the local registrar in order to obtain a permit for burial, removal, or other disposition of the body. The undertaker shall deliver the burial permit to the person in charge of the place of burial before interring or otherwise disposing of the body, or shall attach the removal and transit permit to the box containing the corpse when shipped by any transportation company; said permit to accompany the corpse to its destination, where if within the State of Florida, the removal permit shall be delivered to the person in charge of the place of burial.

Every person, firm, or corporation selling a casket shall keep a record showing the name of the purchaser, purchaser's post-office address, name of deceased, date of death, place of death, and color or race of deceased, which record shall be open to inspection of the State registrar at all times. On the first day of each month the person, firm, or corporation selling caskets shall report to the State registrar each sale for the preceding month on a blank provided for that purpose: *Provided, however*, That no person, firm, or corporation selling caskets to dealers or undertakers only shall be required to keep such record, nor shall such report be required from undertakers when they have direct charge of the disposition of a dead body.

Every person, firm, or corporation selling a casket at retail, and not having charge of the disposition of the body, shall inclose within the casket a notice furnished by the State registrar calling attention to the requirements of the law and a blank certificate of death.

SEC. 10. That if the interment, or other disposition of the body is to be made within the State, the wording of the burial or removal permit may be limited to a statement by the registrar, and over his signature, that a satisfactory certificate of death having been filed with him, as required by law, permission is granted to inter, remove, or dispose otherwise of the body, upon the form prescribed by the State registrar.

SEC. 11. That no person in charge of any premises on which interments or other dispositions are made shall inter or permit the interment or other disposition of any

body unless it is accompanied by a burial, other disposition, or removal permit as herein provided. Any such person shall indorse upon the permit the date of interment or other disposition, over his signature, and shall return all permits so indorsed to the local registrar of his district within 10 days from the date of interment or other disposition. He shall keep a record of all bodies interred or otherwise disposed of on the premises under his charge, in each case stating the name and color or race of each deceased person, place of death, date of burial or disposal, and name and address of the undertaker, which record shall at all times be open to official inspection: *Provided*, That the undertaker or person acting as such, when burying a body in a cemetery or burial grounds having no person in charge, shall sign the burial or removal permit, giving the date of burial, and shall write across the face of the permit the words "No person in charge," and file the burial or removal permit within 10 days with the registrar of the district in which the cemetery is located.

SEC. 12. That the birth of each and every child born in this State shall be registered as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 13. That within 10 days after the date of each birth there shall be filed with the local registrar of the district in which the birth occurred a certificate of such birth, as provided in section 14 of this act.

In each case where a physician, midwife, or person acting as midwife was in attendance upon the birth, it shall be the duty of such physician, midwife, or person acting as midwife to file in accordance herewith the certificate herein contemplated.

In each case where there was no physician, midwife, or person acting as midwife in attendance upon the birth, it shall be the duty of the father or mother of the child, the householder or owner of the premises where the birth occurred, or the manager or superintendent of the public or private institution where the death [birth?] occurred, each in the order named, within 10 days after the date of such birth, to report to the local registrar the fact of such birth. In such case and in case the physician, midwife, or person acting as midwife in attendance upon the birth is unable, by diligent inquiry, to obtain any item or items of information on the certificate of birth, it shall then be the duty of the local registrar to secure from the person so reporting, or from any other person having acquired knowledge, such information as will enable him to prepare the certificate of birth herein contemplated, and it shall be the duty of the person reporting the birth or who may be interrogated in relation thereto to answer correctly and to the best of his knowledge all questions put to him by the local registrar which may be calculated to elicit any information needed to make the complete record of the birth as contemplated; and it shall be the duty of the informant, as to any statement made in accordance herewith, to verify such statement by his signature.

SEC. 14. That the certificate of birth shall be on the standard form approved by the United States Bureau of the Census, all of the items of which are hereby declared necessary for the legal, social, and sanitary purposes subserved by registration records.

SEC. 15. That when any certificate of birth of a living child is presented without the statement of the given name, then the local registrar shall make out and deliver to the parents of the child a special blank for supplemental report of the given name of the child, which shall be filed out as directed, and returned to the local registrar as soon as the child shall have been named.

SEC. 16. That every physician, midwife, sexton, retail casket dealer, and undertaker shall, without delay, register his or her name, address, and occupation and color or race with the local registrar of the district in which he or she resides, or may hereafter establish a residence, and shall thereupon be supplied by the local registrar with a copy of this act, together with such instructions as may be prepared by the State registrar relative to its enforcement. Within 30 days after the close of each calendar year each local registrar shall make a return to the State registrar of all physicians, midwives, sextons, retail casket dealers, or undertakers who have registered in his district during the whole or any part of the preceding calendar year: *Provided*, That

no fee or other compensation shall be charged by local registrars to physicians, midwives, sextons, retail casket dealers, or undertakers for registering their names under this section or making returns thereof to the State registrar.

SEC. 17. That all superintendents or managers, or other persons in charge of hospitals, almshouses, lying-in or other institutions, public or private, to which persons resort for treatment of diseases, confinement, or are committed by process of law shall make a record of all the personal and statistical particulars relative to the inmates in their institutions at the date of the approval of this act, which are required in the forms of the certificates provided for by this act, as directed by the State registrar; and thereafter such record shall be by them made for all future inmates at the time of their admittance. And in case of persons admitted or committed for treatment or disease the physician in charge shall specify for entry in the record the nature of the disease, and where, in his opinion, it was contracted, or, if injured, the nature and cause thereof. The personal particulars and information required by this section shall be obtained from the individual himself if it is practicable to do so; and when they can not be so obtained, they shall be obtained in as complete a manner as possible from relatives, friends, or other persons acquainted with the facts.

SEC. 18. That the State registrar shall prepare, print and supply to all registrars all blanks and forms used in registering, recording and preserving the returns, or in otherwise carrying out the purposes of this act; and shall prepare and issue such detailed instructions as may be required to procure the uniform observance of its provisions and the maintenance of a perfect system of registration; and no other blanks shall be used than those supplied by the State registrar. He shall carefully examine the certificates received monthly from the local registrars, and if any such are incomplete or unsatisfactory he shall require such further information to be supplied as may be necessary to make the record complete and satisfactory. And all physicians, midwives, informants, or undertakers, and all other persons having knowledge of the facts, are hereby required to supply, upon a form provided by the State registrar or upon the original certificate, such information as they may possess regarding any birth or death, upon demand of the State registrar, in person, by mail or through the local registrar. The State registrar shall further arrange, bind and permanently preserve the certificates in a systematic manner, and shall prepare and maintain a comprehensive and continuous card index of all births and deaths registered; said index to be arranged alphabetically, in the case of deaths, by the names of the decedents, and in the case of births, by the names of fathers and mothers. He shall inform all registrars what diseases are to be considered infectious, contagious or communicable and dangerous to the public health, as decided by the State board of health, in order that when deaths occur from such diseases proper precautions may be taken to prevent their spread.

SEC. 19. That each local registrar shall supply blank forms to such persons as require them. Each local registrar shall carefully examine each certificate of birth or death when presented for record, in order to ascertain whether or not it has been made out in accordance with the provisions of this act and the instructions of the State registrar; and if any certificate of death is incomplete or unsatisfactory it shall be his duty to call attention to the defect in the return, and to withhold the burial, removal or other permit until such defects are corrected. All certificates, either of birth or of death, shall be written legibly in durable black ink, and no certificate shall be held to be complete and correct that does not supply all of the items of information called for therein, or satisfactorily account for their omission. If the certificate of death is properly executed and complete he shall then issue a burial, removal or other permit to the undertaker or the person acting as such: *Provided* That in case the death occurred from some disease which is held by the State board of health to be infectious, contagious or communicable and dangerous to the public health, no permit for the removal or other disposition of the body shall be issued by the registrar, except under such

conditions as may be prescribed by the State board of health. If a certificate of birth is incomplete the local registrar shall immediately notify the informant, and require him or her to supply the missing items of information if they can be obtained. He shall number consecutively the certificates of birth and death, in two separate series, beginning with number one for the first birth and the first death in each calendar year, and sign his name as registrar in attest of the date of filing in his office. He shall also make a complete and accurate copy of each birth and each death certificate registered by him in a record book supplied by the State registrar, to be preserved as the local record, in such manner as directed by the State registrar. And he shall, on the tenth day of each month, transmit to the State registrar all original certificates registered by him for the preceding months. And if no births or no deaths occurred in any month he shall, on the tenth day of the following month, report that fact to the State registrar, on a card provided for such purpose.

SEC. 20. That each local registrar shall be paid the sum of 25 cents for each birth certificate and each death certificate properly and completely made out and registered with him, and correctly recorded and promptly returned by him to the State registrar as required by this act. And in case no births or no deaths were registered during any month, the local registrar shall be entitled to be paid the sum of 25 cents for each report to that effect, but only if such report be made promptly as required by this act. All amounts payable to a local registrar under the provisions of this section shall be from the funds of the State board of health upon certification by the State registrar. And the State registrar shall annually certify to the treasurers of the several counties the number of births and deaths properly registered, with the names of the local registrars and the amounts due each at the rates fixed herein.

SEC. 21. That the State registrar shall, upon request, supply to any applicant a certified copy of the record of any birth or death registered under provisions of this act, for the making and certification of which he shall be entitled to a fee of 50 cents, to be paid by the applicant. And any copy of the record of a birth or death, when properly certified by the State registrar, shall be prima facie evidence in all courts and cases of the facts therein stated. For any search of the files and records when no certified copy is made, the State registrar shall be entitled to a fee of 50 cents for each hour or fractional part of an hour of time of search, said fee to be paid by the applicant. *Provided*, That the State board of health may waive any or all of the fees required under this section. And the State registrar shall keep a true and correct account of all fees by him received under these provisions, and turn the same over to the State treasurer.

SEC. 22. That any person, who for himself or as an officer, agent, or employee of any other person, or of any corporation or partnership, shall refuse or neglect to perform any of the duties required by this act, instructions and directions of the State registrar, or rules and regulations of the State board of health, or who shall violate any of the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$5 nor more than \$100.

SEC. 23. That each local registrar is hereby charged with the strict and thorough enforcement of the provisions of this act in his registration district, under the supervision and direction of the State registrar. And he shall make an immediate report to the State registrar of any violation of this law coming to his knowledge, by observation or upon complaint of any person or otherwise.

The State registrar is hereby charged with the thorough and efficient execution of the provisions of this act in every part of the State, and is hereby granted supervisory power over local registrars, deputy registrars, and subregistrars, to the end that all of its requirements shall be uniformly complied with. The State registrar, either personally or by an accredited representative, shall have authority to investigate cases of irregularity or violation of law, and all registrars shall aid him, upon request, in such investigations. When he shall deem it necessary he shall report cases of



violations of any of the provisions of this act to the State's attorney, county solicitor, or county attorney or other prosecuting officer having charge of the prosecution of misdemeanors in the registration district in which such violation shall occur, with a statement of the facts and circumstances; and when any such case is reported to him by the State registrar the said prosecuting officer shall forthwith initiate and promptly follow up the necessary court proceedings against the person or corporation responsible for the alleged violation of law. And upon request of the State registrar the attorney general shall assist in the enforcement of the provisions of this act.

SEC. 24. That the State board of health shall have the power to adopt, promulgate, and enforce rules and regulations requiring the notification of all cases of sickness necessary for the preservation and protection of the public health, and for the collection of statistics of marriages and divorces.

**Schools—Medical Inspection of Pupils. (Chap. 6829, Act June 4, 1915.)**

SECTION 1. The State board of health shall have supervision over all matters pertaining to the medical inspection of school children in Florida, with such duties and powers as are prescribed by law pertaining to public health; and all school children shall be examined as to their physical condition at least once during each school year.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the State board of health, as soon after the passage of this act as practicable, to formulate and adopt such rules and regulations as will be necessary to provide for thorough and uniform medical inspection of school children in Florida, as provided in section 1 of this act.

SEC. 3. The county physicians of each county in the State of Florida shall act as county medical inspectors of school children in their respective counties, providing that in such counties where there are no regular appointed county physicians it shall be the duty of the board of county commissioners to appoint a physician as county medical inspector of school children: *Provided further*, That the county physician or county medical inspector of school children be paid for their services out of the State board of health funds: *Provided further*, That no one physician shall have more than 2,500 school children under his charge, and in counties having more than 2,500 school children there shall be two medical inspectors of school children appointed, as aforesaid.

SEC. 4. The provisions of this act shall not affect cities of over 5,000 inhabitants where medical inspection of school children has already been established under the jurisdiction of the city board of health, provided that the city board of health adopt the forms prescribed by the State board of health and make full report to the State board of health.

SEC. 5. The expenditures of the State board of health for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act shall be certified by the president of the State board of health, and he shall make an annual report to the governor of all such expenditures, together with any special observations, recommendations, or facts that he may present, showing the value of medical school inspection from a public health standpoint or from a standpoint of educational efficiency, or otherwise, and such annual statements shall finally be submitted by the governor to the State legislature, when in regular session convened, and shall be published like other reports of State officers. The accounts necessary to carry out the provisions of this act shall be approved, audited, and paid in the same manner as is prescribed for the payment of other accounts of the State board of health and out of the State board of health funds.